## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 01940 220150Z

72

**ACTION NEA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /070 W

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R 211041Z APR 75 FM AMEMBASSY DACCA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6475 INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG USMISSION USUN NEW YORK USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR BG CH KN

SUBJECT: BDG DIPLOMATIC MAY VISIT PEKING

1. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE IN BENGALI LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER ITTEFAQ, BDG'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN, S.A. KARIM MAY VISIT PEKING MAY 27 ENROUTE TO NORTH KOREA. IN AN APRIL 17 FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE DATELINED NEW YORK "BY AIRMAIL", ITTEFAQ REPORTED THAT KARIM WILL RETURN TO DACCA MAY 20 AND PROCEED TO RANGOON MAY 26 FOR TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR K.M. KAISER, PRINCIPAL BDG ADVISOR ON ITS CHINA POLICY. MAY 27 KARIM WILL GO TO PEKING FOR ONE DAY AND "VERY POSSIBLE" WILL HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH PRC OFFICIALS. ARTICLE SAYS LENGTH OF STAY IN NORTH KOREA IS UNDETERMINED AS YET BUT THAT EITHER DURING THE VISIT OR UPON DEPARTURE, KARIM MAY VISIT PEKING ONE MORE. KARIM SUPPOSEDLY WAS INVITED TO NORTH KOREA BECAUSE OF BDG'S SUPPORT ON THE KOREAN ITTIEM IN UNGA LAST FALL.

2. AS FURTHER SIGN OF IMPROVED BDG-PRC RELATIONS, ITTEFAQ ARTICEL MENTIONS THAT BDG GAVE THE PRC PLANE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CARRYING ITS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CORONATION IN

## NEPAL IN FEBRUARY PERMISSION TO OVERFLY BANGLADESH.

3. COMMENT. THE ARTICLE IS FAR MORE DETAILED THAN
USUAL BANGALI PRESS SPECULATION ON SIGNS OF CLOSER TIES
TO THE PRC, AND ITTEFAQ HAS A REPUTATION FOR CAREFUL
JOURNALISM. MOWEVER, ACCURACY OF ARTICLE IS SUSPECT
ON AT LEAST ONE POINT. ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, BDG,
WHICH HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH
KOREA, ABSTAINED ON ALL CRUCIAL FIRST COMMITTEE VOTES
ON KOREAN ITEM IN UNGA. IN ANY EVENT, BANGLADESH
NEWPAPERS, SOMETIMES WITH GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGEMENT,
TEND TO MAKE MUCH OF EVEN CHANGE ENCOUNTERS WITH
THE CHI SE, ASSERTING THAT THEY INDICATE FURTHER PROGRESS
TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS.
BOSTER

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